## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| : Prior Examiner: Luan Kim Bui              |
| : Prior Group Art Unit: 3728<br>)<br>:<br>) |
| :<br>)                                      |
| : ) : September 16, 2003                    |
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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The documents are being cited because they were cited previously in Applicants' parent application.

In conformity with M.P.E.P. § 609(2)¶ 2, copies of the references are not enclosed. The Examiner is respectfully invited to review the parent application for such documents.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence S. Perry Registration No. 31,865

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## FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY DOCKET NO. 02500.000002.1

APPLICATION NO. (Div. of 09/539,701)

APPLICANT

Kunio Ito, et al.

FILING DATE

Concurr ntly

PRIOR GROUP

3728 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS \*EXAMINER INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS 2,386,416 10/45 Wilhelm 206 531 3,924,746 12/75 Haines 206 530 3,924,748 12/75 Braverman 206 534.1 4,158,411 6/79 Hall, et al. 206 531 5,172,812 12/92 Wharton, et al. 206 531 5,318,824 6/94 Itaya, et al. 206 531 5,360,116 11/94 **Schmiletzky** 206 531 5,486,390 1/96 **Burns** 206 531 4/97 5,624,036 Roulin, et al. 206 534 5,785,180 7/98 Dressel et al. 206 532 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS 0 570 188 7/02 EP 35 32 257 3/87 DΕ **Abstract** OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED

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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.